

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Review Item:

KDE Employment Report

Applicable Statute or Regulation:

KRS 18A, KRS 156.017, House Bill 502 (Budget Bill-2000 General Assembly); executive order 96-612, House Bill 727 (1998 General Assembly)

History/Background:

Existing Policy. The Kentucky Board of Education authorized a minimum 10% minority employment goal for the Department of Education in 1994. This percentage approaches the state minority student population. In addition, effective July 1, 2004, Governor Ernie Fletcher raised the targeted hiring goal for minority employment from 7.51% to 10% based on the 2000 census data for Kentucky.

The Department of Education's minority employment goal exceeds the Kentucky State Government goal and is designed to: 1) provide equal opportunities for recruitment and selection at all levels of the department; 2) mirror the student population of Kentucky's schools; and 3) provide for a multi-talented and diverse workforce that can provide quality leadership and professional services to local school district administrators, teachers, parents, students and citizens.

- The Kentucky Department of Education, as of the close of business, June 30, 2006, employed 646 full-time employees. (567 non-minority employees/87.8% and 79 minority employees/12.2%)
- The department's Frankfort-based full-time work force of 393 employees includes 348 non-minority employees/88.5% and 45 minority employees/11.5%.

During the two-month period from May 1, 2006 to June 30, 2006, there were:

- 1 appointment
- 2 transfer ins – 1 promotion, 1 lateral -- 1 of whom was a minority employee
- 9 separations from employment, 1 of whom was a minority employee
 - 7 separations from a professional position
 - 2 separations from support positions

The Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) hiring is currently subject to a hiring freeze issued by Governor Fletcher's executive order 2003-023. This order implements a hiring freeze covering all vacant positions throughout state government and limits the establishment of new positions to those certified as necessary by the agency head and approved as such by the Governor and Secretary of the Personnel Cabinet.

The following notations are designed to provide clarification:

- Full-Time Employee, for the purpose of this report, is defined as all KRS18A and all KRS161 employees.
- For the purpose of this report, **Leadership** is all non-graded, non-merit KBE/KDE employees; **Professional** reflects all positions, grade 15 and above, and **Support** includes all positions grade 14 and below.
- Appointments and separations are not mutually exclusive. As KDE employees are many times the successful candidates for positions, a single move may create a separation and an appointment. For the purpose of this report, a separation includes: resignations, retirements, transfers out of KDE and deaths.

Attached are two charts that provide data on KDE overall and minority employment, one by office within the Department and the other to provide a historical perspective.

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